



MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
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**MINUTES
of the
GOVERNING BOARD
of the
MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

January 18, 2005

I. Call to Order.

The special meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson Michael Berger, at 3:01 p.m. on January 18, 2005 at the Conejo Recreation and Park District, 403 West Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks.

II. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Ed Hayduk, Jerome C. Daniel, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. Quorum present.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer; Rorie Skei, Deputy Executive Officer; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations; Paul Edelman, Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Dan Tholund, Chief of Facilities and Maintenance; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Amy Lethbridge, Chief of Interpretation; Jeff Jones, Chief of Finance, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

III. Election of Officers.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Mr. Berger was elected as Chair.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Mr. Lange was elected as Vice Chair.

IV. Public testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.

V. Reports from Staff:

- (a) Legal;
- (b) Operations;
- (c) Natural Resources and Planning;
- (d) Education and Interpretation;
- (e) Developed Parks;
- (f) Construction.

The Authority received verbal reports from the Chief of Operations; the Director of Natural Resources and Planning; the Deputy Executive Officer, the Chief of Construction, the Chief of Facilities and Maintenance, and the Chief of Interpretation.

VI. Consent Calendar:

- (a) Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for October, November, and December 2004.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution accepting an offer to dedicate a trail easement: Bird/P5-82-336 in Ramirez Canyon located in the City of Malibu, in Los Angeles County.**
- (c) Consideration of resolution accepting an offer to dedicate a scenic easement: Malibu Lake P5-83-711, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution adopting a Youth Employment Plan for the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path funded by Proposition A.**

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 05-01, 05-02, 05-03, and 05-04 were unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution authorizing assignment of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's Specified Excess Funds to allow the City of Long Beach to apply for \$200,000 for improvements to the Drake-Chavez Greenbelt Park project, a designated Los Angeles River project.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning and the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-05 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of a grant of Proposition 50 Section 79572 funds from the Santa Monica Mountains

Conservancy or in the alternative acceptance of an assignment of a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the acquisition of approximately 340 acres (APNs 4455-015-002, 4455-016-032 and 033, 4455-035-001, 4455-033-005, 006 and 021, 4455-028-043, and portions of 4455-033-003 and 026) of the approximate 588-acre Soka University property, unincorporated Calabasas area, and authorizing the execution of all documents required by the Wildlife Conservation Board pursuant to the conditions of the grant.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made the Executive Director and Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Messrs. Hayduk and Lange.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-06 was unanimously adopted.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into an amendment of the scope of grant number SMM-875 to allow for the redirection of the funds to acquisition of the approximately 588-acre Soka property or a portion thereof, unincorporated Calabasas area.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer, the Executive Officer, and Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 05-06 was unanimously adopted.

X. Statements, questions, and directions to staff pursuant to Section 54954.2 of the Government Code.

Comments were made by Messrs. Daniel and Lange.

XI. Closed Session.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Government Code §§ 54956.8 and 54956.9. Confidential memoranda related to these items may be considered during such closed session discussions. Conference with legal counsel. Number of cases: 4. (1) *City of Malibu v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; (2) *Corbridge v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; (3) *Andrew Sabol v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al CIV 226281 (Ventura County)*, and (4) *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Laminar RR Acquisition, L.L.C. et al.*

No closed session was held.

XII. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on February 2, 2005.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 4:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP
Executive Officer

Michael Berger
Chair